

GOOSE HUNTERS

Check Your Geese!

Geese shot during the Late Canada Goose Zone Season (1 – 15 February 2009) **must be checked** within 48 hours of kill at a state check location (listed below), and **no later than** 3pm on 15 February. Geese will be sexed and aged, and the heads of all adult geese will be collected. We must do this to ensure we are within federal guidelines for this late season.

You will need to provide the date of kill and the county of kill to the check station. They will give you a receipt that indicates that your birds were properly checked. You must show this receipt to a conservation officer upon request.

The check stations will be open from 11am – 3pm on Fridays through Monday and Wednesdays of the late season (February 1-2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15). They may be open at other times, but call ahead to make sure there is someone there who can check your birds if you go outside of these published times.

The list of goose check stations is below. Thank you for your cooperation, and good luck!

Fish and Wildlife Areas

Kankakee: 4320 W Toto Rd, North Judson; (574) 896-3522

Kingsbury: 5344 S Hupp Rd, LaPorte; (219) 393-3612

Pigeon River: 8310 E 300 N, Mongo; (260) 367-2164

Tri-County: 8432 N 850 E, Syracuse; (574) 834-4461

Atterbury: 7970 S Rowe St, Edinburgh; (812) 526-2051

Minnehaha: 2411 E SR 54, Sullivan; (812) 268-5640

Goose Pond: two miles south of Linton on SR 59; (812) 659-9901

Reservoirs

Hardin Lake (Raccoon SRA office parking lot): 1588 S Raccoon Pkwy, Rockville; (765) 344-1884

Cagles Mill (Lieber SRA office): 1317 W Lieber Rd, Cloverdale; (765) 795-4576

Salamonie (service area): 9214 W Lost Bridge, Andrews; (260) 468-2125

Roush Lake (office): 517 N Warren Rd, Huntington; (260) 468-2165

State Parks (Please leave birds in your vehicle and inform staff inside that you have geese to check—they will accompany you to your vehicle.)

Ouabache (main gatehouse): 4930 E SR 201, Bluffton; (260) 824-0926

Mounds (visitor center parking lot): 4306 Mounds Rd, Anderson; (765) 642-6627

Turkey Run (nature center parking lot): 8121 E Park Rd, Marshall; (765) 597-2635

Potato Creek (nature center parking lot): 25601 SR 4, North Liberty; (574) 656-8186

Pokagon (nature center parking lot): 450 Lane 100 Lake James, Angola; (260) 833-2012

Ft. Harrison (maintenance building): 5753 Glenn Rd, Indianapolis; (317) 591-0904

Field Offices

Cikana State Fish Hatchery (East Unit, metal buildings): 2650 SR 44, Martinsville; (765) 342-5527

Michigan City Fisheries Office: 100 W Water St, Michigan City; (219) 874-6824

Northeast Regional Office: 1353 S Governors Dr, Columbia City; (260) 244-6805

Other (These will only have attendants 11-3 on check days because they are not state properties, so phone numbers are not provided)

Vigo County: Gander Mountain, 3602 S US 41, Terre Haute (1/2 mi south of I-70 on US 41)

Boone County: Culley's Service Station, 101 E South St. (SR 32), Lebanon (one block east of state road 39 on state road 32)

Dekalb County: Marathon, 190 Smaltz Way (SR 8), Auburn (turn west on state road 8 from the I-69 Auburn exit, on south side of street)

Dear Goose Hunter:

Thank you for participating in Indiana's experimental Late Canada Goose Zone hunting season. This late season targets urban geese that are forced out of towns and cities to feed as the weather gets colder. Snow cover also helps to drive birds out of town. Many years of surveying and research went into the preparation of this season before it was finally approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Below are listed some of the important regulations of which you need to be aware when participating in this season. These regulations will be in effect for three to four years while we evaluate this late season.

- **This season is open only in the following counties: Steuben, Lagrange, Elkhart, St. Joseph, La Porte, Starke, Marshall, Kosciusko, Noble, De Kalb, Allen, Whitley, Huntington, Wells, Adams, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Greene.**
- **You must have an Indiana hunting license, Indiana waterfowl stamp, federal waterfowl stamp, and a HIP number to participate.**
- **You must also have a special free permit to participate. These permits will be available beginning in December via web (<http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/>) or via mail (call 317-232-4200 and we will send you a permit). The permit has a brief survey attached to it. You must return this survey to us. These surveys help us determine if we are meeting the federal requirements for this season. Failure to return the survey will make you ineligible for participation in this late season next year. The survey is postage-paid—no stamps are required.**
- **Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.**
- **Regular waterfowl regulations apply. It is illegal to take Canada geese using electronic callers, shotguns capable of holding more than three shells, or to shoot after sunset.**
- **Please note that the light goose conservation order (snow goose season) does not open until 16 February, after the late Canada goose season closes.**
- **The bag limit for this season is 5 Canada geese per day, with a possession limit of 10.**
- **All Canada geese harvested during this season must be checked at a state goose check station within 48 hours of kill (see attached for a list of locations, dates, and times). You will need to tell the check station operator the date and county of kill. S/he will age and sex the bird. If the bird is an adult, the check station will remove the head and return the rest of the bird to you. Juvenile birds will not have the head removed. We need to measure the heads to determine the proportion of Indiana giant Canada geese taken during this season. You will be given a check receipt for your birds, which you must show a conservation officer upon request. Birds may be breasted out before being checked, but the head, tail, reproductive parts, and at least one fully-feathered wing must be attached at the time of check. Please do not freeze carcasses before bringing them to the check station. Frozen carcasses cannot be sexed! Refrigeration, left in a cold garage, etc. is fine.**
- **Finally, I would like to encourage you to report any banded geese taken. You may report these bands by calling toll-free 1-800-327-BAND, or online at www.reportband.gov.**

Thank you very much for your participation and your cooperation. I hope you have the first of many successful late Canada goose seasons in Indiana.

Adam Phelps, Waterfowl Research Biologist